

**55246 to 55252—Continued.**

become soft and have a tendency to fall from the bunch. The hands of bananas are usually seven or eight in number and average about 14 bananas to the hand. Each fruit is from 5 to 7 inches in length and from 2 to 2½ inches in diameter, with a weight of 7 or 8 ounces. The skin of the ripe fruit is of medium thickness, and tender, and separates, leaving a portion of its inner lining on the pulp of the fruit when peeled. The pulp is rather spongy and white or creamy white in color, suggestive of ice cream, hence its name. The flavor is slightly tart and applelike." (Pope.)

- 55248.** "(No. 4499.) *Iholena*. The plant is of low growth, perhaps about 9 feet to the top of the leaves as an average. The petioles are rather stout, light green with pink on the edges; leaves slightly bronze colored on the under surface when young. The bunch is rather small. The fruits are arranged loosely and stand out almost at right angles from the axis of the bunch. The skin of immature fruits is light green, turning to yellow before ripening. The form of the fruit is angular; when thoroughly ripe, beginning to turn black, it is regarded as one of the best of the native bananas for eating raw. It is also good for cooking. The flesh is pink." (J. E. Higgins, *Bulletin 7, Hawaii Agricultural Experiment Station*.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 22064.

- 55249.** "(No. 4731.) *Kona Mainamale* or *Miamamale*, as it is sometimes called, is, I believe, the best cooking banana in these islands, and I believe it has commercial possibilities in a locality like Kona, where much good land may be had with sufficient rainfall, little wind, and rich soil overlying a most favorable underdrainage." (Pope.)

- 55250.** "(No. 4497.) *Largo*. Introduced into Hawaii from Mexico. The plant is of medium height, and the fruits, borne in long-stemmed bunches, have buttery pinkish flesh of fair flavor." (J. E. Higgins, *Bulletin 7, Hawaii Agricultural Experiment Station*.)

- 55251.** "(No. 4495.) *Porto Rico*. This variety was introduced from Porto Rico by the Hawaii station in 1904.

"Description of the plant: Average height about 25 feet. Mature trunks become about 10 or 12 inches in diameter at the base. Each trunk supports 10 or 12 green leaves about 12 feet long. The color of the trunk sheaths varies from a shade of pink to dark brown. The color of the leaves is dull green above and light green below, with abrasionlike markings at the base of the petioles where they begin to extend from the sheath.

"Description of the fruit: The bunch is small to medium in size, weighing 25 to 40 pounds, and usually consists of five or six hands. The banana is smooth with angle ridges not prominent, apex or blossom end somewhat beaked, and not well filled, even on bunches which show plump fruit from good culture. The skin is bright yellow and peels well when fruit is ripe. The flesh is light yellow and rather juicy, sweet, with a pleasant flavor somewhat like that of the apple. The fruit ripens uniformly and holds well on the bunch.

"The *Porto Rico* is a very desirable banana for growing in the home garden, as most of its qualities are such as are desired in a fresh fruit for home use." (Pope.)

- 55252.** "(No. 4492.) *Red Cuban*. This is the proper name of the largest sized variety of the various red bananas; large both as to plant and fruit. A well-grown bunch has 8 to 10 hands and individual fingers of from 2 to 2½ inches in diameter. This is the red banana of commerce." (Goldsmith H. Williams, *Crescent City, Fla.*)